

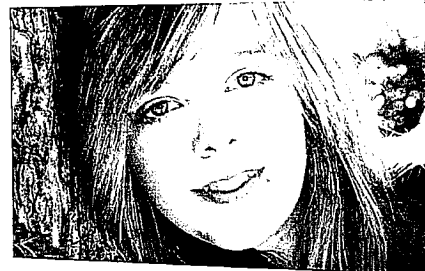
Katie learned to read **DESPITE** my education degree, not because of it!

Katie now.

I am entering this to you as written testimony in support of SB 44.

My name is Jane Hayes and I am a wife, a teacher, a Certified Academic Language Therapist, and the mother of a dyslexic child.

allowed us to get her the intervention at such an early age. Despite federal guidelines, Katie didn't show any red flags on any Child Find preschool assessments. The only recommendation at that time was, if I had concerns, to retain her.



So, how is my story different?

I sit as a VERY small subset of parents who have dyslexic children. Why? My dyslexic child never struggled in school.

I started looking at all the other warning signs and symptoms for dyslexia and discovered that there were things that Katie and I could be working on when she was 3 and 4 that would help build her up to be successful when she went to Kindergarten. Despite the fact that I taught Kindergarten for five years or that I knew what



It is only through your support of SB 44 that other parents can say their child never struggled like Katie.

History:

I moved to Kansas Board of Regents School to attend college where I received a Degree in Elementary Education. There I met my husband, we married, and relocated to Wichita. I got a job at the largest school district in the state where I taught Kindergarten and 1st grade. We had 3 children in 5 years.

My oldest went to school the year that my youngest was born. He learned to read using flash cards. He was 5. My oldest daughter learned to read the same year as her brother; she was 3 1/2. I had no expectations that my youngest child would ever struggle.

Katie's Story:

When Katie was two years old, I received training to be an Academic Language Therapist. It was this training that allowed me to see the key characteristics in Katie that

Kindergarteners needed to know, Katie was struggling and she hadn't even started school!

Intervention:

I started working with her using a research validated, highly structured, systematic, and explicitly taught preschool program. As a result of this intervention and prevention, Katie has never struggled in school.

It is only through your support of SB 44 that other parents could say their child never struggled.

Once we know better about something, we are responsible to do better. Now is the time to do better. Now is the time for SB 44.

Jane Hayes
Wichita, KS



Katie was 3 when she started receiving interventions.